

Amusements To-Night.

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 FAIRBANKS—8—Julien Convent.
 DAILY THEATRE—8—The Twenty-First.
 FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8—The New Island.
 GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—The Black Flag.
 HAYWELL'S 14TH STREET THEATRE—8—The Black Flag.
 HENDERSON'S STANDARD THEATRE—8—The Black Flag.
 MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8—The Black Flag.
 KIRK'S THEATRE—8—The Black Flag.
 THALIA THEATRE—8—The Black Flag.
 THEATRE COMIQUE—8—The Black Flag.
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Business Notices.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The desire of President Grövy to resign is due to the unsettled state of the country and the attacks on the Republic; several explosive machines have been found at different points in Paris. In Parliament yesterday the troubles in the Transvaal were discussed. Divers reports that there are 400 bodies in the hold of the wrecked steamer Cimbria. John Walsh has secured evidence to the effect that he was not in Dublin on the day of the Phoenix Park murders. The report that Admiral von Stosch, Chief of the Ministry of Marine in Germany, had resigned is confirmed.

DOMESTIC.—The Washington sleeping car on the Pennsylvania Railroad was destroyed by fire near Wilmington station, Allegheny Mountains, yesterday morning, but the passengers escaped without injury. The Rev. Alexander S. Keiser, of Pottsville, Penn., was deposed from the ministry yesterday. The managers of election at Bennett'sville, S. C., and fifteen other Democrats, of Marlboro County, were arrested for election frauds. Nathan P. Pratt, the defaulting treasurer of the Reading Savings Bank, was convicted. Emmett O'Neill, of Schenectady, has swindled many persons out of sums amounting to nearly a quarter of a million. A portion of the Highland mine, at Deadwood, Dak., caved, and one miner was fatally injured. Father O'Malley, of Oakbrook, Wis., published a card stating that Senator Tabor's marriage was not recognized by the Catholic Church. Judge William White, of the Ohio Supreme Court, died suddenly Monday night.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Patrick Egan arrived here on Monday. Charges were preferred against Commissioner Thompson by the Council of Reform. One hundred and sixty-four young men were graduated from the Medical Department of the University of the City of New-York. Ives, Boecher & Co., large dealers in whiskey, wines and teas, suspended, with \$450,000 liabilities. The sale of the Cooke library was begun. Salmi Morse was discharged. The holding back of milk by farmers caused much excitement. Gold value of the legal tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 84.05 cents. Stocks were feverish and irregular and closed weak at the lowest prices.

THE WEATHER.—THURSDAY local observations indicate warmer and clear or fair weather. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 40°; lowest, 33°; average, 39½°.

Mr. Patrick Egan, former treasurer of the Land League, contrary to general expectation, has turned up in New-York and not in Paris. In other respects he fulfills the prophecies made when he disappeared so mysteriously in Dublin. He indignantly denies that he left Ireland for any reason except private business. Of course, he has come to America on "commercial matters," and at the request of his friend Sheridan. It is also the ex-treasurer's intention to explain Land League matters to those interested. He will have an immense audience assuredly. Mr. Egan vehemently denies that he had anything to do with assassination circles, or that any of the League money went to pay the expenses of the murders.

Mayor Edson made another lamentable failure yesterday. He nominated "Bob" McCord as Excise Commissioner. McCord is a typical specimen of "trading" machine politicians. There are grades lower down, but still he is far from being a suitable person to administer the Excise law—a work which ought to be free from political influence, Republican or Democratic. And yet it is only a day or two place Mr. Edson declared that he had given the matter of the nomination of an Excise Commissioner much consideration; he realized fully the importance of putting in the place a man of the "highest standing and best moral character"; and he should use his best judgment in making the selection. The result of all this fine talk is "Bob" McCord! If this is Mayor Edson's "best" judgment what would his worst be?

The Democratic members of the Legislature who recently voted to keep Mr. Bliss in the

seat which belongs to Mr. Sprague are hardened against Republican criticism of course. If they were not, they would have reformed long ago. But they still have feeling and sense enough left to know when they are hit by members of their own party. They realize that it may mean fewer votes when they come up for re-election. For this reason the Democrats at Albany will not learn with pleasure this morning that the Young Men's Democratic Club of Brooklyn has adopted a resolution declaring all the Assemblymen who voted to keep Mr. Bliss in his place "guilty of a plain treason to the doctrine that the will of the people plainly expressed shall prevail." Republicans will be encouraged to know that honest Democrats capable of plain speaking still exist around New-York.

Workmen have no more mercy on each other than they say other classes in the community have on them. The law which has just been passed by the Legislature in compliance with the demands of some of them, to prevent cigar-making in tenement-houses, proves this. It is a measure entirely in the interests of the men employed in tobacco factories who are unwilling to see their fellows make a living in a different way from what they choose. Back of it, also, are the trades unions, which see in tenement-house labor an element hostile to strikes. For the cigar-makers who work at home are beyond their control, working when they please and for what they please. It is said that this labor makes the tenement-houses unwholesome, that children are kept at it when they ought to be in school, and that the cigars thus made are not good. That may be true; but certainly those evils could be corrected without entirely prohibiting work at home. As the law stands it seems to mean poverty or emigration for many honest families.

All New-Yorkers who take an interest in the good reputation of their State will be pleased that the Niagara Falls bill is so far on its way to become a law that it has passed the Assembly. It provides for the appointment of an unpaid commission to select certain lands around the Falls which shall henceforth be reserved by the State in order to preserve the scenery at the falls, and to repair, as much as may be, the defacements made by selfish landowners. The vote was 68 yeas to 39 nays. It is hard to understand the real sentiments of these thirty-nine members who felt justified in opposing the measure. Some of them ostensibly based their opposition on grounds of economy. That will hardly do. They did not hesitate on that score to vote for certain measures touching the police of Brooklyn and New-York which would tax these two cities nearly a million a year. The bill now goes to the Senate. Despite their politics, there ought to be enough well-informed and sensible members in that House to put it through quickly with a handsome majority.

This time it is the Council of Reform which is after Commissioner Hubert O. Thompson and his system of letting contracts. So far as is known this organization is not for sale, and therefore it seems likely that the Department of Public-Works will be well ventilated. It needs it badly. If Mayor Edson will look up the evidence taken by the Grady-Treanor Investigation Committee last year he will find some excellent points to begin with. Indeed, he might well take up the investigation precisely where Mr. Grady so singularly left it. The inquiry might also develop why Mr. Grady stopped his investigation. It is commonly understood that the price Commissioner Thompson paid to end it before his methods were fully exposed was the promise of his assistance to re-elect Grady and Treanor, the two Tammany leaders, to the State Senate this fall. A careful investigation might block that little game and give the voters of the Fifth and Ninth districts a chance to choose entirely respectable men to represent them. Indeed, there is apparently no end to the interesting side issues which this proposed investigation of the Council of Reform might develop if properly managed. It might show, for instance, how many single jobs for \$999 each Mr. Thompson could let out if he should have to be expended in increasing the water supply of this city.

INCREASING THE SHERIFF'S FEES.

Unhappy experience ought to lead the Legislature to look with suspicion upon any bill which Senators Koch and Grady vehemently champion. When these two representative Democrats show great anxiety to get a measure passed there is too much reason to fear that it covers some partisan or personal job. For instance, there is the bill, which the Senate has ordered to a third reading, turning over to the Sheriff all sales of real estate now made by referees, except when all the parties to a suit agree upon a referee to be appointed by the Court for that purpose. The object of this proposed law is to increase the already enormous and excessive revenue of the Sheriff's office. Whence has come the demand for a change of this sort? What public meetings have been held to favor it, or what weighty memorials have been sent to Albany in its support? Since the downfall of the Tweed Ring there has been no serious complaint of the referee system so far as it applies to sales of real estate. That is more than can be said of the Sheriff's office. The extortion of illegal fees in that office, the outrages and extortions practised by the political "suckers" from whom the body of deputy sheriffs is too often recruited, have been denounced repeatedly in recent years. Is even Grady or Koch impudent enough to assert that the administration of that office has been as a rule so pure, honorable and economical that its powers and its income ought to be enlarged? Every lawyer knows, and every defendant in a litigation who has been unfortunate enough to fall into the clutches of a deputy sheriff knows too well, that the lot of the man who went from Jerusalem to Jericho was happy in comparison with the fate of him on whom an order of arrest is served. Why are places in the Sheriff's office so eagerly sought by the lowest order of "faction" "heelers"? Is it the legitimate gains that they are after, or is it the prospect of fleecing some poor prisoner by charging him the most exorbitant sums for trifling services and innocent privileges?

Offices with immense revenues, such as those of our Sheriff, Register and County Clerk, are always sources of corruption and evil in politics and governments. They are such tempting prizes that politicians stick at nothing to get them. From them is derived a great part of the fund which is used every November in this city in buying votes. Of course the leaders of the political factions take no part in this abominable traffic, but who is so innocent as to suppose them ignorant of it? Votes are not now bought and sold openly at the polls, as was the case in Rhode Island, and in New-York as well, a dozen years ago. But shortly before election sums of money are distributed among the "workers" in each ward, and the men who use these sums "for the good of the party" are never asked for vouchers or statements. The enormous assessments

which are levied upon candidates for the three richest offices in the county, and the big contributions to the factions which the holders of these offices are required to make every year, go a long way toward the payment of election expenses, both legitimate and illegitimate. Are Senators Koch and Grady working to increase the corruption fund at the control of the Democratic factions? They certainly cannot be moved by a disinterested desire to enlarge Sheriff Davidson's private income by \$60,000 or \$70,000 per year. The most guileless of Assemblymen in the simplicity of his first session would never accept that theory. But whether the motives that influence the two Senators are partisan or personal, it is not likely that they are of a nature to bring them much credit.

The fee system in our public offices ought to be abolished rather than enlarged. If the Sheriff, Register and County Clerk were paid liberal salaries, and all the fees were turned into the treasury, the city would be largely the gainer from every point of view. It is argued in support of the present system that these public officers have heavy responsibilities and that they are liable to heavy losses from errors on the part of their subordinates. The Collector of the Port of New-York also has heavy responsibilities, and mistakes by his subordinates may cause heavy losses. But the Federal Government does not find it necessary, nevertheless, to make the place worth \$75,000 a year in fees in order to induce a man of the right sort to take it. It would not be difficult to transform our present system in the three big bonanzas of city politics that the offices would be better filled than now, while the fees would be used for the public benefit and not for the corruption of politics and the enrichment of the undeserving.

A "SLICK" CANDIDATE.

The fratricidal tussle among the Ohio Democrats which always precedes a campaign in that State is in progress again now. It has been the custom of the brethren for many years to fight one another before the nomination is made even harder than they fight the Republicans after the campaign opens. This adds greatly to the interest of the struggle and usually helps to swell the Republican majority. The hostile factions this year are led by Congressman Geddes and our old friend Judge Hoadly. The fight opened several weeks ago and has been increasing steadily in heat ever since. The general Democratic belief that the success of the party in last year's election is a like success this year greatly stimulates the contest. The rival candidates are confident that a nomination will be equivalent to an election, and are making every effort to win. Of course the liquor question is the most important of all, and the candidate who can secure the anti-temperance interest is likely to be the most favored in the convention. The attitude of the rival claimants on this issue is extremely edifying.

In order of strength Mr. Geddes is believed to stand first. It is said of him that he can command both the Methodist and the liquor vote. His house is the headquarters of the Methodist denomination in his section, and his hospitality and generous sympathy with the interests of the Church's work are said to have made him very popular with its members in all parts of the State. At the same time, it is claimed that he has never given evidence to the liquor-dealers, and they are as fond of him as the Methodists are. Surely this is a lay statesman, and we do not wonder that the Democrats who are supporting him chuckle with delight over his accomplishments. John G. Thompson says of him: "Brother Geddes is a slick one," and he appears to be right. It is said that he has attained this double popularity by no underhand means, but that he is always dignified in his deportment. "That is, he is dignified when he entertains his Methodist brethren, and dignified when he takes a drink with his Democratic brethren. As the two are never together when Mr. Geddes meets them, he has no difficulty in making his deportment in both cases harmonious."

Judge Hoadly, on the other hand, has only one string to his bow. He was the chief legal adviser of the liquor interests in their fight against the Pond law, and is their recognized champion. This is a natural position for the Judge. There is never any doubt about which side of an issue he is on. If it has a bad side he is pretty sure to be there. He attained eminence in national politics as the only lawyer in the country with sufficient impudence to write an opinion sustaining the Cronin attempt to steal the electoral vote of Oregon in 1876. If he runs for Governor of Ohio it will be as the advocate and defender of unrestricted whiskey. His position has the merit of frankness at any rate, and in that respect is vastly to be preferred to the hypocritical double-dealing of Mr. Geddes.

It is thought now that Mr. Geddes has the better chance for securing the nomination, and we have no doubt the party sees much in his attitude to admire. It is a peculiarity of Democrats everywhere that they are always trying to win by a trick. They always construct their platforms on that principle, but are always so hounding about it that they get caught. If they think Mr. Geddes is "slick" enough to slip through the campaign and retain the support of both Methodists and rum-sellers they will nominate him. Anybody except a Democrat can see in advance that the experiment, if tried, will be a ridiculous failure. The presumption that he can hold both classes of followers is based on the ground that the Methodists of Ohio are all fools. That does not appear to us to be a wise intimation for a party to make which relies for success on Methodist votes.

"BY THE HORNS."

The "bull of protection" is now to be "taken by the horns." The announcement is made by Mr. Henry Watterson, who, besides being Editor of the chief organ of Democracy in the West and Southwest, has the added distinction of being the author of the celebrated tariff plank in the Cincinnati platform of 1860, which declared in favor of a tariff "for revenue only." That declaration itself was a pretty square taking of the bull by the horns, so far as the action of the Convention went, and Mr. Watterson, who was assisted in the performance by that distinguished apostle of free trade, Mr. David A. Wells, evidently did not understand it at all. What they wanted was a candidate who would stand some show for an election, and who, being elected, would carry out the only Democratic principle for which they cared a copper: the principle, to wit, that the only proper way to administer the Government is to give all the offices to Democrats. That being done, they did not bother themselves about tariff or currency, or anything else. Very few of them knew until after Hancock was nominated and the platform adopted, and the hurrah was over, that the platform contained anything whatever about the tariff. It was not until the campaign had fairly opened and their candidate, being pressed, had communicated to the public his somewhat remarkable views upon the question, that the members of the Con-

vention discovered the fact that while they were taking hold of the horns of the altar—or the bar—Mr. Watterson and Mr. Wells had seized the horns of the protection bull. And when they did discover it they at once set up the cry that it was no adventure of theirs; that they were not looking for any bull, and were not taking that kind of horns; that this was Mr. Watterson's individual enterprise, with which they had no concern whatever; and that he must fight it out as best he could. Most of them turned tail and went away without so much as trying to worry the bull. General Hancock, their candidate for the Presidency—his attention being called to the scrimmage by a New-Jersey editor during a ride up Broadway—remarked in the most casual and indifferent way that it was purely a "local question," upon which he did not feel called upon to take sides. All this time Watterson had the bull "by the horns," and much of the time was in the air. Whenever he struck ground a double-edged editorial article in *The Louisville Courier-Journal* gave evidence that he was laboring under great excitement, but that through all of it he kept hold of the bull. A great many Democrats said on reading the platform that it was "a great bull," but whether they meant the one in the platform or the one which Watterson had by the horns or the one which Watterson had by the horns or the one which Watterson had by the horns, we are not entirely clear. Possibly both. Over in Indiana many Democrats sympathized with the bull. To these spectators, Mr. Watterson made ejaculatory observations not complimentary to their intelligence, and reflecting with some bitterness upon their political orthodoxy. At the conclusion of the spectacle Henry got up out of the dust, and with perfect self-possession ordered everybody who had laughed at him to go to the rear. The returns of those who went are not yet in.

And now he proclaims that the Democratic party—by which he certainly means himself and nobody knows how many more—intends again to "take the protection bull by the horns." He proposes to show "that protection in the abstract is a lie, and that protection in the concrete is a robber;" "that protection, as a theory, is the curse of all our industries, and that protection as an actor in affairs plunders the workmen as ruthlessly as the rest of us;" and in taking the bull by the horns he proposes "an alliance between the dismantled South and the pillaged West against the oligarchs of the East who are sucking the life blood out of the people and sapping the solid interests of the country in order that many thousands of 'millions may be massed in a few hands.' This is the way he proposes to 'take the bull by the horns,' and he believes that 'we shall gain nothing by an attempt to revise our position and to stultify our record.' So here is the prospect of another fine hall-baiting. The campaign is laid out. It is to be shown that "protection in the abstract is a lie and protection in the concrete is a robber." With this proclamation the Kentucky journalist and statesman "takes the bull by the horns." If he sticks to his text there will be considerable raising of dust and tossing of heels in the air for the next nine months, and then, when the Democrats in Congress come to the election of Speaker, we shall learn whether Henry is to be tossed out or whether the whole party is to join him in trying to throw the bull. The bull meantime is comfortably grazing in fertile fields, calmly unconscious that Watterson contemplates taking him by "the horns." And we suspect that when the Democrats meet in the next Congress, after taking a good look at the bull, they will say, "Give us not these, but some other horns."

A LEGISLATIVE MISTAKE.

The official announcement that two sections of the new tariff bill, by which duties are considerably reduced, take effect immediately upon the passage of the act, and have been in fact of full force and validity since March 4, will be received with some surprise. Apparently there is a little disposition to exaggerate the importance of the evident blunder made in the Senate and in conference committee, by which these two sections were so worded as to go into effect prior to other changes of duties upon imports, and it may be well to state, therefore, that the utmost effect of these provisions, as estimated by Mr. Morrill and the Senate Committee, is to diminish duties collected by about \$3,400,000 yearly, or 2½ per cent. On a few classes of goods, however, the change is more important. It came to pass as follows: The Tariff Commission submitted certain changes in the tariff schedules and other changes in laws governing the collection of duties, without specifying any date at which either should take effect. The Senate provided that the substitute for Title 33, Revised Statutes, embracing the tariff schedules, should go into effect July 1, but when the amendments to the next title, 34, relating to the collection of duties, were reached in the consideration of the bill, it decided to strike out most of them excepting two, that Section 2,907 and Section 2,908, Revised Statutes, be repealed. Mr. Beck then moved a substitute for the purpose of making the repeal more definite, which was adopted, but neither he, nor the Committee, nor the Senate, observed that no date was fixed at which the repeal should go into effect. Nor was the omission noticed in the committee of conference. The sections thus repealed are as follows:

Sec. 2,907.—In determining the dutiable value of merchandise there shall be added to the cost, or to the actual wholesale price or general market value at the time of exportation in the principal markets of the country from whence the same has been imported into the United States, the cost of transportation, shipment, and transshipment, with all the expenses included, from the place of growth, production or manufacture, whether by land or water, to the vessel in which shipment is made to the United States; the value of the sack, box or covering of any kind in which such merchandise is contained; and also at the retail rate, but in no case less than 2½ per cent; and brokerage, export duty, and all other actual or usual charges for putting up, preparing and packing for transportation or shipment. All charges of a general character incurred in the purchase of a general invoice shall be distributed pro rata among all parts of such invoice, and every part thereof charged with duties based on value shall be advanced according to its proportion, and all wines and other articles paying specific duty by grades shall be graded and paid duty according to the actual value of the merchandise.

Sec. 2,908.—All additions made to the entered value of merchandise for charges shall be regarded as part of the actual value of such merchandise, and if such addition shall exceed by 10 per centum the value declared in the entry, in addition to the duties imposed by law, there shall be collected a duty of 20 per centum on such value.

Some provisions follow not now of importance. The effect of these clauses was to add 20 per cent ad valorem duty to the duties otherwise imposed, whenever the cost of inland shipment or transshipment, the commissions (at least 2½ per cent) and the brokerage, packing and other charges, exceeded 10 per cent of the original cost of the imported articles at the place of growth or manufacture. The Tariff Commission urged the repeal of these sections "because of the great labor at the custom houses in apportioning and distributing the charges on the liquidation of entries (as we are advised, the work of liquidation on ad valorem goods is more than doubled by reason of these charges and their distribution), the very great delay in liquidation consequent on

"the complicated calculations involved in the distribution of the charges on the goods in the invoice bearing different rates of duty, the delay, annoyance and expense to the importer arising from the necessarily tedious liquidation thus occasioned, and because, in the judgment of the Commission, these charges should not be regarded as part of the cost of the goods." There will hardly be two opinions as to the wisdom of this recommendation; in fact, no opposition to the proposed repeal was manifested either in the Senate or in the House. But the Commission recommended and Congress enacted a moderate increase of duty on some articles, particularly on earthenware, on which the addition by charges was large and their repeal would cause especial reduction. In some instances, the Commission believed, this reduction would amount "to nearly if not quite one-fourth" of the duty, while on finer and higher priced goods it would be much less.

By the mistake of Congress, the repeal and reduction take effect at once, while the partially compensating increase of duties does not take effect until July 1. Hence, on a few classes of bulky and coarse goods, duties will be lower in effect for the next three and a half months than they will be afterward. But the quantity consumed of the kinds of goods materially affected by the change is not large. Of earthen and stone ware, according to the census, the value of all products was \$7,942,720, and the imports for consumption the same year were \$5,500,994. The change of duties will materially affect the production and trade as to only a part of these goods, and for about a quarter of a year, and this item, it is believed, is affected more than any other. Hence, though the blunder in the act was wholly indefensible, and it will do some harm for a short time, the evil effects will probably be much less serious than some suppose, and they will be temporary.

The sections repealed formed part of the Act of July 28, 1868. This was a bill not intended to be permanent, but to serve a temporary purpose until a tariff bill which had been deferred by the Senate to the next session could be acted on. Mr. Sherman, however, on behalf of the Committee on Finance, moved to strike out the section now in question, saying, "As this is a temporary provision, only designed to be enforced until the new tariff act will take effect, we think it better to strike out the whole section," and he then explained that it would cause a great deal of trouble, uncertainty, delay and litigation. By a vote of 26 to 11, the Senate did strike out the section, but it was restored with a modification on report of a committee of conference, and has stuck in the law ever since. The Commission was clearly right in holding that these provisions ought to be repealed; if higher duties on any class of articles were needed, such duties should have been imposed simply, directly and openly. The removal of these vexatious and costly provisions and the substitution of higher duties on some articles was one of the best features of the Commission's report, and it is to be regretted that the Senate did not take proper care to adjust the section of repeal to the rest of the bill.

Senator H. A. Nelson must be a dreadfully morose Democrat. He actually objected to a bill on Monday evening on the absurd and inconsequential ground that it would increase the fees of the Sheriff of this county \$60,000 a year. His fellow Democrats promptly rebuked his lack of enthusiasm for reform by ordering this beautiful tribute to the cause of economy and retrenchment to a third reading.

General Butler's latest official utterance is a recognition of the right of the people to bear arms. If he really wants to put some protoplasm into his Presidential bonnet let him go a step further and advocate the passage of a law making it a capital offense not to know that "it was loaded."

A Brooklyn divine some Sundays ago presented statistics to prove that Brooklyn had no right to the title of "The City of Churches." After reading that a notorious or pugilist has been appointed to a comfortable public position in Brooklyn the public will be inclined to conclude that this divine was probably correct.

PERSONAL.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught are traveling through France as Mr. and Mrs. Sussex.

Ex-Senator David Davis was annoyed on his way to North Carolina by the vulgar curiosity of many people to get a sight of him. It is said that women were the greatest sinners in this respect.

Queen Corola of Saxony has a beautiful face and engaging manners. She is fond of English literature and reads stories of American life and customs to her children. "She is to-day," says *The London Globe*, "one of the three perfect sovereigns in Europe."

It is the popular impression that Senator Edmunds has only a moderate income. This is said to be not the case. Besides his salary as Senator he receives a liberal salary as counsel for the Vermont Central Railroad and is consulted for an opinion in all important cases that come before the Supreme Court. He is also frequently retained in private cases. From all sources, it is said, his annual income is not far from \$100,000.

The Washington correspondent of *The Boston Advertiser* has some interesting gossip about the ownership of the Rogers house, near the White House. Henry Clay used to own the lot on which it stands. He was especially devoted to his Ashland farm and the live stock upon it. One day old Commodore John Rodgers came home from the Mediterranean with his naval vessel full of live stock which he had picked up abroad. The cargo included one fine Andalusian jackass. Clay wanted it for his farm. All his offers were rejected, until one day the Commodore said in joke: "You can have him for your lot opposite the White House." "Done," was Clay's reply, and the jackass was shipped off to Kentucky. The Commodore built the new historic house, which Secretary Edwards occupied during the war. Here Payne entered to assassinate him on the night when President Lincoln was shot. The lot is now valued at \$100,000.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Secretary Folger was not at the Treasury Department to-day. His health does not improve as rapidly as was expected. He will probably acquiesce in his physician's advice and take a short sea voyage in a few days in order to recuperate. It is therefore probable that Assistant Secretary French will continue to be acting Secretary of the Treasury for some time to come.

GENERAL NOTES.

In Corea the common cure-all is ginseng root, the best specimens of which will in times of scarcity command the almost fabulous price of \$10,000 a pound.

At a recent fancy-dress ball at Sydney, Australia, the wife of an officer appeared as the "Press." Her dress was made of several copies of her husband's paper, printed in colored ink on white satin. The fortunate editors' subscription list was conspicuously increased since this showed bits of advertising.

The Chinese who were recently driven out of Waynesboro, Ga., have begun suits for damages in the United States District Court at Savannah, under direction of the Chinese Ministry at Washington. There are three suits, one brought by Lo Chong & Co. for \$50,000, one by Thomas Loy Chong for \$40,000, and one by Ah Sing for \$25,000. There are eighteen defendants.

Stranraer are the ways of Western Journalists. The *Lancaster Boomerang* a few days ago renitted for a time the discussion of the burning questions of the day, and had a leading editorial article on "The Archæologist." It was a peculiarly Western story of a peculiarly Western sort which went up the stairway of a private house calmly browsed on the potted plants in the second story windows, and when she got through, jumped out of one of the windows to the ground—a distance of twenty feet. The voracious archæologist said that she was not injured in the slightest degree by the jump.

The United States steam frigate *Lancaster*, flagship of the European Squadron, the command of which has been transferred by Rear Admiral J. W. A. Nicholson, who is to be retired, has sailed and steamed 21,000 miles since leaving New-York in October, 1881. She has visited thirty-six different ports and been in

port fifty-three times. At one port, poor Admiral Nicholson received seven salutes of thirteen guns each, and heard "Hail Columbia" played forty times by different bands of music on one day, besides receiving a constant succession of salutes from the batteries of the vessels of foreign navies, all of which had to be returned.

At a meeting held in Berlin on February 27, Professor Foerster, the renowned astronomer, gave an account of the marvelous experiments made in the North of Finland by the Swedish physicist, Mr. Hultner, which resulted in the artificial production of an aurora. At about 67 degrees north he placed a network of copper wire, terminating in many perpendicular points, on the top of two mountains, one of which is 6,000 feet high. This network of wire he connected with the earth at the bottom of each mountain in the usual manner. The atmospheric electricity attracted to the earth by the copper network formed an aurora which rose above the mountains to a height estimated at 500 feet.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The great number of restrictions placed upon railroads by Legislatures in the South is beginning to excite the fears of many that the construction of railroads in that section will soon come to a stop. *The Dardanelle Arkonian* makes this observation: "It will be time to put the thumb-screws on railroads when we get more of them. What we want to do now is not to offer friendly legislation, but to keep them out. The prevalent opinion at the South has been that railroads would be built there any way, no matter how much they were hampered. A little experience is showing the folly of this opinion."

Mr. Randall is supposed to represent the protection wing of the Democracy and Mr. Carlisle the free trade wing in the Speakership contest. Another candidate now comes into the field as the representative of the Democratic reformers, whoever they may be. This is Casey Young, of Tennessee. His friends imagine they see room enough for him to edge in between the candidates of the extreme right and left. His platform of revenue reform means nobody seems to know, and it is doubtful if he could interpret it intelligently himself. This Speakership contest, however, is likely to show up the views of the South on the subject of Democracy on the tariff in a very conspicuous light.

The absence of sectional animosity in the deliberations of the late Congress is considered a promising sign by the Washington correspondent of *The Baltimore Sun*. He believes that the Republicans have laid aside the war issues and that they will play no part in the next Presidential campaign. "The political situation," he says, "is a number of States of the South notably Virginia, North Carolina, Louisiana and Florida, is such that with wise management and avoidance of stirring up local prejudices, the Republican party can control them, and for a century, for a century, and now of success." The Republicans will no doubt have an entirely new situation to face next year, and it will be well for them if they recognize the fact at once.

The Georgia woods are full of candidates for Governor. They are announced at the rate of a dozen a day. Few of them can expect to be considered a possibility, however. They doubtless foresee the change which is soon to take place in the politics of that State and want to be in a position to reap any advantage from it. The most probable candidates for Governor are the group are acting Governor Clayton and Major Bacon. The latter contested the nomination last year with the late Governor Stephens. The time for the canvass is brief and consequently the feeling will not run high. The Republicans have made no sign as yet and it is doubtful if they propose to take any part in the campaign.

MUSIC.

THE PHILHARMONIC CLUB CONCERT.

The fifth of the delightful concerts of chamber-music given by the Philharmonic Club occurred last evening in Culebra Hall. Mr. Hermann took the second violin in place of Mr. Richter, and Mr. Edmund Neupert assisted at the piano-forte. Mr. Neupert was also the solo performer, playing a cluster of small compositions of his own. His work, though of different character from the grander and more original, bore strong family likeness to each other in restless tonality and ingenious and sometimes strenuous manner of expression rather than in flow of fresh musical ideas. Two of them, however, the "Valse Noble" and "Concertante," were spontaneous and original in theme and treatment.

The first quartet was an entire novelty by I. von Bellocray, in G minor. Though marked op. 21 the author and any other works seem equally unknown. Bellocray is believed to be a Magyar or a Russian. It is rumored that he is not by profession a musician, but an engineer. Evidently he knows both music and engineering, the quartet being full of interest, particularly in the second movement, "Intermezzo," an allegretto grazioso of charming form, and in the third movement, an adagio of deep feeling and beauty. The second quartet was the one in A minor (op. 43) of the Berlin professor F. Kiel, a longer and more serious and important work, in which the effect of classical models and the modern, though not slavishly imitated, was clearly seen. The composition is of the strict and most legitimate playfulness, and was given with admirable delicacy and spirit, showing profound acquaintance.

Mr. Neupert shines especially in ensemble playing, and his piano-forte part in the Kiel quartet was instructive and delightful. Grieg's "Norwegian Dances," as arranged by Mr. Neupert for the club, were most appropriate, particularly the "Valse Nocturne," which was strongly contrasted with "Valse Nocturne" and "In the Sunshine" carried off the honors. The delicious character of the music, the beautiful melody, the composition is of the strict and most legitimate playfulness, and was given with admirable delicacy and spirit, showing profound acquaintance.

THE CHORUS SOCIETY'S PROGRAMME.

The concert of the New-York Chorus Society this week is one of high musical importance. The two works of Bach and Schumann are of high importance, and the program is one of the most interesting and characteristic examples of those masters at the time of their highest creative activity and power. The Bach Cantata is one of the briefest choral works, and is the only cantata which was written for performance on any occasion. All the others were designed for special occasions. Brief as it is, it contains the most varied effects, and illustrates the greatest variety of choral writing. The text is virtually